

the Stark County Safe Kids and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA.

Since the inception of the Military Outreach Program, Melissa Seibert has helped over 5,000 individuals. True to her nature, she is now helping start similar outreach programs in the Ohio Red Cross chapters of Alliance and Muskingum Lakes. Recognized by her peers, she will soon be seeing her ideas applied nationally as her program is cloned in communities across our land. Melissa thoroughly enjoys working with Military Services and says, "It's not a job, it's a calling. A job is doing something because you are required to do it. A calling is doing something because you are passionate about it."

Ms. Seibert's dedication to Ohio military personnel and their families has warranted this prestigious award. Her selfless endeavors and meaningful contributions remind us of what can be accomplished when we give of ourselves for the benefit of others.

RECOGNIZING MARINE SERGEANT
DANIEL J. PATRON

HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2011

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Marine Sergeant Daniel J. Patron. Sgt. Patron—a member of the 8th Engineer Support Battalion, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, II Marine Expeditionary Force—was tragically killed on August 6 while trying to defuse a roadside bomb in the Helmand province of Afghanistan.

Our Explosive Ordinance Disposal, or EOD, teams are even more important and face even more dangerous tasks now that we are dealing with an enemy who relies on improvised explosive devices. From the start of our combat operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, insurgents have often refused to fight our forces in the open, choosing instead to hide in the shadows waiting to attack our brave men and women from afar.

Standing between our soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines and those insurgents are our EOD teams. They selflessly place them-

selves face-to-face with increasing advanced and intricate explosives. Their office resides fully in harm's way, and they know one loose wire or one extra-sensitive detonator could kill them or their team members. Still they accept the job of protecting their brothers and sisters, too often laying down their own lives in the process.

I have no doubt Sgt. Patron knew the risks he took on a daily basis. He knew that each day the challenges would be great and the task at hand would be vitally important. That kind of noble commitment to others may seem incredible to many of us. But what it is truly remarkable is how often we see it from those who serve in our Armed Forces. Daniel was certainly no exception.

Sgt. Patron leaves behind his wife Cody Drace Patron, his parents Frank and Kathy, and his older brother Matthew. I would like to pass on my deepest condolences to his family and share with them the thanks of a grateful nation. Daniel was, and will remain, a shining example of the best America has to offer.

I honor Daniel's life, his sacrifice and his memory. He will surely be missed by many, but he—along with all of our fallen heroes—will not be forgotten.